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The book is its own best eulogy; but if there is one feature that deserves praise above others, it is the tabular arrangement of motions at the beginning of the work, which gives at a glance the status and requirements of every motion that can be put—questions more puzzling than any others—which alone would render the book not merely invaluable, but indispensable, to any one who would clearly understand the rules of parliamentary practice.

R. D. S.

THE LAW OF REAL ESTATE BROKERS AS DECIDED IN THE AMERICAN COURTS. By STEWART RAPALJE. New York: Baker, Voorhis & Co. 1893.

This little book, in the words of the author, is not put forward as a treatise, but rather as a compilation of the case-law upon the relation of real estate broker and customer. It is clear that it is the broker's book, written from his standpoint, to meet his necessities, settle his doubts, and "deter him from rushing into court with a case." The work is a concise digest of about nine hundred important cases upon the law of principal and agent as applied to real estate transactions. The first part treats of the powers and liabilities of the broker, including his authority to act for and bind his principal. The second and more important part is devoted to the very interesting subject of compensation, particularly the right to commissions and suits for commissions, with special reference to the various defences set up by ingenious customers.

The work, as has been said before, is not a treatise. There is no historical or legal discussion whatever, no attempt to criticise or reconcile conflicting dicta and rules. The text comprises a succession of brief and compact syllabi, joined by the familiar "Thus," "but," "so," "where," etc., with footnotes devoted to citations. An author who believes this form of writing of use to laymen simply deceives himself. A layman's law book must contain full and patient explanations of first principles. The layman is merely bewildered by the best of digests. This work, however, will be of service to the attorney whose practice includes a real estate business, and

to the title and real estate officers of the many trust companies that are fast monopolizing the business of settlements.

W. H. L.

A STUDY OF THE DEGENERACY OF THE JAWS OF THE HUMAN RACE. By EUGENE S. TALBOT, M.D., DD.S., Chicago, Ill. Philadelphia: The S. S. White Dental Manufacturing Co. 1892.

THE ETIOLOGY OF OSSEOUS DEFORMITIES OF THE HEAD, FACE, JAWS AND TEETH. By EUGENE S. TALBOT, M.D., DD.S. Third Edition.

These two books, which we have examined with much interest, should prove a lasting monument to the industry and learning of their author. The question of degeneracy of the jaws in its relation to the administration of criminal justice was presented in evidence in the case of the People *v.* Prendergast in the City of Chicago, in which case the learned author was called and examined as an expert. It seems to the writer that anyone with unprejudiced mind, examining the statistics so industriously collected by the author, will be compelled to regard his conclusions with respect. To treat such conclusions with ridicule, as was done by some of the alleged experts in this case, is, to take a charitable view, evidence of ignorance. To give these works such a notice as they deserve would occupy too much space; but, among other questions therein considered, we would call particular attention to Chapters X, XI, XII and XIII, respectively, of the work secondly above described, treating upon "Crime," "Prostitution and Sexual Degeneracy," "Moral Insanity," "Pauperism and Inebriety" and "Intellectual Degeneracy."

No practitioner of law called upon to investigate a case in which the alleged criminal presents stigmata of degeneracy as was the case in the Prendergast trial, can afford to pass by this work.

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